Medical Humanities (MEDH)

The Medical Humanities Steering Committee includes:

- Trish Starks, history
- Jonathan Marion, anthropology
- Casey Kayser, English
- Warren Herold, philosophy

The medical humanities minor is designed to give students an overview of the ways in which various disciplines in the humanities inform, intersect with, and apply to understandings of the medical arts and sciences. The medical humanities minor is beneficial for students preparing for careers in health care, social services, and health-related fields, especially those who wish to understand how cultural, social, ethical, religious, literary, artistic, and other such perspectives can enrich conceptualizations and approaches to patient care.

Approaching medicine from a humanistic perspective will help future health care and social service practitioners view patients and individuals with greater empathy and awareness, as well as provide them with the tools to critically analyze their own experiences. The minor is also appropriate for students from disciplines within the humanities and social sciences interested in researching and practicing in such areas related to the historical, social, and cultural dynamics that have informed medical institutions and treatment; patient advocacy; medical law and ethics; narrative medicine; and art, music, or narrative therapies.

Requirements for Minor in Medical Humanities

A minimum of 18 hours consisting of the following:

Choose one introductory course:

- ANTH 1023 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (ACTS Equivalency = ANTH 2013)
- COMM 1023 Communication in a Diverse World
- HIST 1123 Institutions and Ideas of World Civilizations II (ACTS Equivalency = HIST 1123)
- PHIL 2103 Introduction to Ethics (ACTS Equivalency = PHIL 1003)
- PSYC 2003 General Psychology (ACTS Equivalency = PSYC 1103)
- SOCI 2013 General Sociology (ACTS Equivalency = SOCI 1013)
- SOCI 2033 Social Problems (ACTS Equivalency = SOCI 2013)
- GNST 2003 Introduction to Gender Studies
- PBHL 1103 Personal Health and Safety
- PBHL 1303 Introduction to Human Sexuality

Choose three of the following core courses or committee-approved special topics courses (taken from two different departments):

- ANTH 3533 Medical Anthropology
- ANTH 3563 Culture and Medicine
- COMM 3763 Health Communication
- ENGL 3873 Medical Humanities Colloquium
- HIST 4883 Health and Disease: 1500 to the Present

HUMN/SCWK 3163 On Death and Dying
PBHL 2663 Terminology for the Health Professions
PHIL 3123 Bioethics
SPAN 4583 Advanced Spanish for Health Professions

Choose two courses from the following elective courses: 6

- ANTH 3583 Body and Identity
- COMM 2323 Interpersonal Communication
- COMM 4343 Intercultural Communication
- COMM 4763 Health Communication Campaigns
- HDFS 1403 Life Span Development
- HDFS 2413 Family Relations
- HDFS 2433 Child Development
- HDFS 2443 The Hospitalized Child: Child Life Programming
- HDFS 3423 Adolescent Development
- HDFS 3443 Families in Crisis
- HDFS 3453 Parenting and Family Dynamics
- PSYC 3013 Social Psychology
- PSYC 3023 Abnormal Psychology
- PSYC 3093 Developmental Psychology (ACTS Equivalency = PSYC 2103)
- HDFS 4423 Adult Development

Total Hours 18

At least 9 hours must be in courses numbered 3000 or higher. A maximum of 6 hours will be allowed from any one department.

Students may petition the Medical and Health Humanities Steering Committee to have other courses accepted as requirements for the minor. Additionally, the committee intends to update these elective options if and when relevant new courses become available.